

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Previously Presented) The method of fabricating at least a ceramic honeycomb body according to claim 4, wherein a temperature of the high-humidity ambience is at least 80°C.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of fabricating at least a ceramic honeycomb body according to claim 4, wherein ~~a~~the high-humidity ambience is formed by supplying high-humidity steam.
4. (Previously Presented) A method of fabricating at least a ceramic honeycomb body including a multiplicity of cells, the cells having wall thicknesses of 0.125 mm or less, comprising
drying at least an extrusion-molded argillaceous honeycomb body by
exposing the extrusion-molded argillaceous honeycomb body to a high-humidity ambience of not less than 70 % in humidity; and
irradiating the extrusion-molded argillaceous honeycomb body with microwaves having a frequency of 1,000 to 10,000 MHz;
wherein drying the extrusion-molded argillaceous honeycomb body is carried out by measuring a temperature of the extrusion-molded argillaceous honeycomb body and controlling supply of the microwaves in accordance with the measured temperature.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of fabricating at least a ceramic honeycomb body according to claim 4, wherein the temperature of the honeycomb body is measured by using a thermometer selected from the group consisting of infrared radiation thermometers and laser thermometers.

6-15. (Canceled)